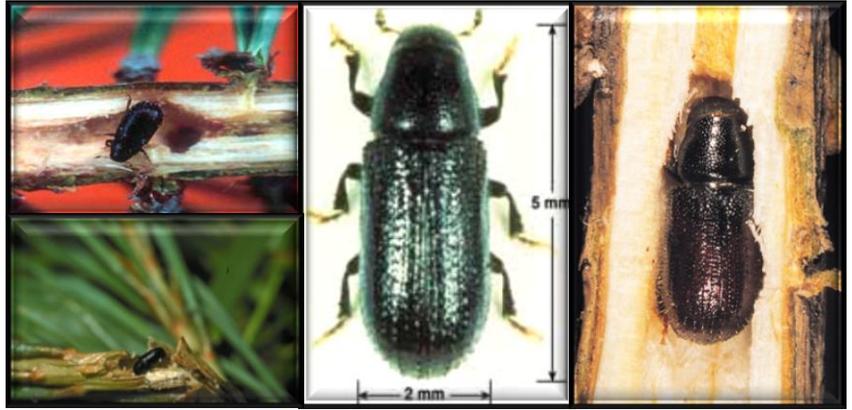


PINE SHOOT BEETLE

NOT KNOWN TO
OCCUR IN IDAHO



Common name: Pine Shoot Beetle

Scientific Name: *Tomicus piniperda* (Linnaeus)

The pine shoot beetle native to Europe, was first discovered in the United States in July 1992, in a Christmas tree plantation in Ohio. Since then, intensive surveying by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and state departments of agriculture has revealed its presence (as of 27 June 2006) in thirteen northern states: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Vermont, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Identification

The adult beetle is 0.12 to 0.20 inches in length, cylindrical, brown turning to shiny black (figure 1.). The larvae are legless, up to 0.20 inches in length, having a white body with a brown head.

Hosts

Scotch pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) is the preferred host but pine shoot beetle will attack other *Pinus* spp. including red pine (*Pinus resinosa*), Jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*), Eastern white pine (*Pinus strobus*), and Austrian pine (*Pinus nigra*). When the population levels are high, adults may breed in logs of fir (*Abies spp.*), spruce (*Picea spp.*), and larch (*Larix spp.*).

Life Cycle

Adults overwinter on the bark of pine trees. The beetles exit the overwintering site and begin flying about when the temperature reaches or exceeds 54°F. The first flight usually takes place in late winter or early spring. Adults lay eggs on stumps, logs, and dying Scotch and related pines. The larvae feed under the bark and make galleries 3 to 10 inches long. The immature stage usually lasts from April until June. The larvae pupate under the bark and the adults emerge throughout the summer. Adults can fly several miles in search of new hosts and there is one generation per year.

Damage

Damaged shoots will display a round entrance hole usually surrounded by pitch. The shoot may have one hollowed tunnel or several short hollow tunnels. The damaged shoots will turn yellow, droop (a process known as flagging) and eventually fall off the tree.

Other Resources

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/psb/index.shtml

<http://www.entomology.umn.edu/cues/Web/184PineShootBeetle.pdf>

<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/health/pineshoot/tabid/5216/Default.aspx>

<http://www.invasive.org/browse/subject.cfm?sub=980>

